

Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6924th meeting

 Friday, 22 February 2013, 10 a.m.
 New York

President:	Mr. Kim Sook	(Republic of Korea)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Ms. King
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Bertoux
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Bouchaara
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Russian Federation	Mr. Ilichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	Togo	Mr. Kandangha-Bariki
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Griffiths
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Guinea-Bissau

Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country (S/2013/26*)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-24063 (E)



Please recycle



The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Guinea-Bissau

Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country (S/2013/26*)

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/102, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Morocco, Rwanda, Togo and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2013/26, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2092 (2013).

I shall now give the floor to the member of the Council who wishes to make a statement following the voting.

Mr. Rosenthal (Guatemala) (spoke in Spanish): Guatemala voted in favour of resolution 2092 (2013)

owing to the importance we attach to the work of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), the situation in that country and the need for the political situation to move in the right direction, namely, a return to a constitutionally elected Government. We also did so because we agree with extending the mandate of UNIOGBIS for an additional three months, so as to provide an opportunity for a new assessment of the situation in the country and the eventual role of the mission.

However, as my colleagues know, we had certain difficulties with the seventh preambular paragraph of the draft resolution. We did not want to impede the adoption of the resolution, which, I wish to emphasize, we support as a whole. However, we did want to set out the reason for those difficulties, namely, that the text of the resolution takes note of the signing of a memorandum of understanding concerning the implementation of the road map for the reform of the security sector in Guinea-Bissau. That is a document we have never seen, and we would therefore be ill-advised to take note of a document whose contents have not been shared with us. We point that out in the fervent hope that all the relevant information in the Council's resolutions will be fully shared with all members in a timely manner.

In conclusion, I should like to point out that, since the military coup d'état in Guinea-Bissau on 12 April 2012, Guatemala has participated actively in Security Council discussions and has supported its resolutions and statements. Owing to our own history, we have adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards such breaches of the constitutional order. We therefore supported the Security Council's decision to continue to actively consider this issue. We call for the early resumption of a democratic electoral process and for the restoration of a legitimate Government in the country.

The President: There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6925th meeting

 Friday, 22 February 2013, 10.15 a.m.
 New York

President: Mr. Kim Sook (Republic of Korea)

Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábai
	Australia	Ms. King
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Araud
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Bouchaara
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	Togo	Mr. M'Beou
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Parham
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization
 Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2013/96)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-24069 (E)



Please recycle



The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2013/96)

The President: In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Roger Meece, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/96, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I now give the floor to Mr. Meece.

Mr. Meece (*spoke in French*): I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to present to the Security Council an overview of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the work of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) in the context of the report of the Secretary-General distributed to the Council last week (S/2013/96). Certain elements of the current situation are encouraging, including the relative continued weakness of the organization and combatants of the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Nevertheless, I regret to inform the Council that the general security situation in eastern part of the country has continued to deteriorate since my last briefing (see S/PV.6868). Worse yet, certain areas have seen a significant deterioration in security and humanitarian

terms. I refer here to the situation in northern Katanga. Moreover, it is my intention to focus the Council's attention on the security situation and associated key factors. Of course, I will briefly touch on certain other important developments linked to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(spoke in English)

The attention of both the Congolese authorities and the international community has been focused mostly on the mutiny originally started by Bosco Ntaganda and now widely referred to as the Mouvement du 23 mars (M-23) rebellion. That attention is well merited. The consequences of the rebellion arising both from the direct action of the M-23 forces and the indirect effects felt throughout North Kivu and neighbouring provinces represent the most serious security threats to stability in the region in general and the population in particular, at least since I took up duties in Kinshasa in July 2010.

While there has been a general pause in M-23 offensive operations since its temporary occupation of the provincial capital of Goma late last year, the M-23 has continued to consolidate its own administrative structures in the portion of North Kivu it occupies, with reports of widespread violence and threats of violence within that area, targeting local authorities or others who attempt to resist its authority. In addition, MONUSCO continues to receive many reports of continuing M-23 recruitment of new combatants, including through the use of force, and widespread recruitment of minors. We have also observed that the M-23 has maintained significant military positions just outside of the city of Goma, in violation of the Kampala agreement reached last year. Those positions include well-placed firing positions on the Munigi Heights, which put the Goma airport within firing range. There has been no evidence to date of any general pullback of M-23 forces or a significant change in their general military posture. The M-23 forces maintain an appearance of being well supplied, well provisioned and well armed.

The M-23 has also continued to conduct patrols or stage other operations immediately adjacent to the city of Goma. Those have provoked in recent weeks increased fears and rumours in the area of an imminent resumption of large-scale military actions. They are indicative of a generally tense and fearful atmosphere in Goma and the general region. The overall situation is volatile and precarious and could break down at any

time into large-scale conflict without much, if any, prior warning.

Government forces, the *Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo* (FARDC), are maintaining a military presence in Goma of 650 troops, in accordance with the Kampala agreement. The FARDC Eighth Military Region headquarters has been re-established in an area south of Sake in the province. A renewed Congolese police presence has been established in Goma with the support and collaboration of MONUSCO, which has been maintaining order despite a shortage of arms, vehicles and other resources since the M-23 occupation of the city. Absent the three-way security arrangement at the Goma airport called for by the Kampala agreement, MONUSCO has maintained overall control of the airport from the time of the occupation through the present.

Associated with this situation, we have continued to see a general increase in Congolese militia activity through the province. Whether by design or simply circumstance, the continuing clashes between armed groups have assumed the character of proxy battles. For example, in the very volatile area around Pinga in North Kivu, there have been ongoing clashes between Mayi-Mayi Cheka, with Cheka having shifted his collaboration from the FDLR to the M-23, and the *Alliance des patriotes pour un Congo libre et souverain*, a militia now sharing anti-M-23 objectives with the FARDC. Other armed confrontations are regularly occurring involving a number of other forces, including the FDLR, *Rahiya Mutumboki*, *Nyatura*, the *Front Congolais pour la rétablissement de la démocratie*, *Mayi-Mayi Shetani*, and various other groups. Inter-community ethnic tensions, sharply heightened since last year by the M-23 rebellion, characterize many of these conflicts. All contribute to a general situation of instability, an overall degradation of security conditions, and a state of quasi-permanent threat to much of the population of the province.

The M-23 has been unable to establish any significant base of support outside of its occupied area of North Kivu, despite its strong efforts to do so. Nonetheless, there has been a general increase in militia activity in South Kivu province, increased insecurity in the northernmost portion of North Kivu, and ongoing strife in Ituri district of Orientale province, facilitated by security voids and the general preoccupation of authorities with the M-23 threat. This general increase includes some increased activity by the Ugandan Allied

Democratic Forces (ADF) group based in northern North Kivu, although it is not clear at this time whether this represents a longer-term trend or is a short-term coincidence. Widespread reports of killings, sexual violence including rape, the use of children and forced recruitment, and other human rights abuses characterize the violence in essentially all areas.

There are two relative brighter spots, if I may use that term, in the general security scene in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. One is the continuing weakness of the FDLR and its apparent inability to rebuild or reinforce its general capabilities, despite the general lessening of FARDC and joint military operations directed against them since the beginning of the M-23 rebellion. There has been a major reduction in the number of FDLR personnel processed for repatriation since a peak of 141 repatriated combatants was achieved in March 2012, just before the outbreak of the M-23 rebellion. This result was associated with the joint operations then ongoing in South Kivu. Numbers have fallen considerably since.

We did record an unusual surge in January of 66 repatriated Rwandan FDLR combatants, in contrast to the 29 recorded in December. Forty-four of these, however, were in South Kivu, apparently connected with a large-scale move of the majority of FDLR personnel left in that province, apparently seeking areas safer from attack by *Rahiya Mutumboki* and others. As of 15 February, however, only 19 FDLR combatant repatriations have been recorded for the month, apparently indicating a return to the generally low repatriation levels of late 2012.

Despite these conditions, there is no evidence that the FDLR has been able to build any new strength; in fact, all reports suggest the opposite. While the FDLR certainly does retain a significant capacity for making trouble in the areas of its operations, particularly in North Kivu, it seems clear that its overall position is weak — certainly compared to that of two or more years ago.

In Orientale district in north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, the attacks and generally activities of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) also appear limited. In collaboration with the Dungu Joint Intelligence and Operations Centre, we continue to estimate LRA combatant levels in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to be very limited. Generally operating in small and usually poorly equipped and

supplied groups, LRA fighters certainly do continue to exact severe violence on civilians they target, including abductions, significant violence and looting by armed elements. Also, of course, the group retains the capability to move forces across borders at will, requiring ongoing vigilance and regional cooperation to put an end to this regional threat. For some time now, however, LRA operations and numbers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo have been of more limited scale. It should also be noted that the sparsely settled but very large areas of Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé districts also continue to experience elevated levels of violence from criminals, including poachers.

MONUSCO has sought to respond to all of these threats using all available resources and to the limits of our mandate. As noted in the Secretary-General's report, for example, and contrary to a considerable amount of erroneous press reporting at the time, MONUSCO was substantially engaged militarily to oppose M-23 offensive operations, including the November offensive against Goma. I would be happy to supply Council members with a detailed account of the military operations surrounding that M-23 offensive, as may be desired.

Unfortunately, as is clear, this military engagement and that of the Congolese FARDC forces failed to halt a strong, well-conceived, well-equipped and determined operation to take control of Goma. MONUSCO has been continuously reviewing our deployments and bases of operations to try to ensure maximum capacity to respond not only to the M-23 operations, but also to the threat posed by a wide variety of armed groups throughout eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our civilian and police components and United Nations specialized agencies have all worked closely together to respond as effectively as possible to a broad and growing range of security and humanitarian issues. I must underscore again, however, that our forces and our resources are stretched very thin over a broad area. Indeed, as new threats are emerging in other areas, including Maniema and Katanga provinces, we have a very limited opportunity to respond to them.

As the Council is aware, there have been a broad range of regional and international efforts under way in regard to this daunting array of issues, and most especially in regard to the threats posed by the M-23, FDLR, ADF and other armed groups in North and South Kivu. These include the regional peace framework initiative spearheaded by the Secretary-General's office

to achieve a durable peace in the region, talks under way in Kampala under the general coordination of Uganda as chair of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region, and increased regional initiatives associated with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union. I will not detail all of those here, as the Council has already received substantial reporting and updates on these efforts.

I will briefly mention, however, two particularly important pending initiatives with a direct potential impact on MONUSCO activities. The first has been the proposal to add an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) surveillance capability to MONUSCO. I would like to express my personal thanks and appreciation to the Council for its support of this proposal, and I can assure Council members that we are moving forward with the relevant New York offices to ensure deployment of these UAVs at the earliest possible time. Our field personnel have affirmed to me the importance of the potential benefits that can accrue from this new capability, once deployed.

The other is the widely discussed proposal for an additional military force or brigade within MONUSCO equipped with a peace enforcement authority going beyond a traditional United Nations peacekeeping mandate. From my perspective, it has become increasingly clear that the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, now MONUSCO, has long operated consistent with a traditional United Nations peacekeeping model developed and based on a post-conflict environment. Unfortunately, of course, as recent events have underscored anew, the environment in which the Mission operates is much more and too often one of active conflict.

Seeking to adapt a post-conflict peacekeeping model to this context has not been particularly satisfactory. I am convinced that a peace enforcement capability on the ground is a necessary component to help achieve the conditions necessary to obtain the engagements and commitments needed by all parties to permit a durable peace in the area to be established. As a specific proposal for that prospective force is finalized — likely utilizing military forces to be provided by SADC — I would strongly encourage the Council to give serious consideration to the proposal, its needs and requirements and, I hope, provide the necessary support and authorization for such a force to

be deployed at the earliest time possible. I believe that represents an urgently needed and important response to the existing situation on the ground, especially in North and South Kivu.

In discussing current security threats, I must also note the recent worrisome security developments in Katanga and other provinces. The Mayi-Mayi leader known as Gédéon and associated militias, such as Kata Katangais and others, have been increasing their activities in northern Katanga province since Gédéon's escape from prison in late 2011. The situation has now reached alarming proportions, affecting a growing geographic region and already producing a major humanitarian crisis. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs now estimates that there are 316,000 displaced persons in Katanga because of Gédéon-related military activity. That number is growing.

We have received many requests for an increased MONUSCO presence and response. Unfortunately, we have a very limited presence in the area and, correspondingly, a limited capacity for response. Nonetheless, we are looking at all possibilities involving all relevant country team agencies, as well as MONUSCO, and working with local, provincial and national authorities to identify options. I fear, however, that the situation will likely grow worse in the coming weeks.

Likewise, I have been concerned by events that took place roughly a week ago, with the temporary occupation of the town of Punia in Maniema province by a cell of the Rayi Mutumboki militia group — a considerable distance from what had been their area of operations in South Kivu province. That represents another expansion of the reach of militia activity and violence and, again, beyond the area of any MONUSCO presence. In that case, a FARDC counter-attack using troops from Kisangani was able to drive out the Rayi Mutumboki elements a day after their occupation of the town, driving them east towards Kasese, a town in Maniema that was still under Rayi Mutumboki occupation as of early this week. Fortunately, there were no casualties among the humanitarian workers from a number of agencies operating in the area. Nonetheless, that, too, represents a worrisome development to which we have a limited ability to respond. I would also note, in passing, as significant issues to monitor, potential problems with continuing tensions in parts of Equateur

province and reported significant refugee flows from the Central African Republic into Equateur.

The increasing challenge to humanitarian agencies has been growing increasingly acute, particularly in the light of the ongoing financial pressures limiting funding for needed operations. Humanitarian workers are facing daunting challenges in delivering services to needy populations, certainly including, but not limited to, the large and growing numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Kivus, but elsewhere as well. The challenges include adequate access as needed and associated security threats posing potential immediate dangers to the individuals and agencies involved. We are working as closely as possible with MONUSCO resources and those drawn from all United Nations agencies to respond to those needs. Those include security concerns, focused on large and growing IDP camps in North Kivu, in protecting those in the camps from attacks. We have achieved some progress in that regard. However, I would very much urge all Member States and organizations to be as forthcoming as possible to support those humanitarian efforts to the maximum extent possible, so as to facilitate effective responses to the already enormous, and likely growing, needs.

Before concluding my remarks, I would like to briefly note a few important developments also touching on MONUSCO's mandate.

The Nations Assembly recently adopted a new election law providing for substantial reforms to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). Just within the past week, the Assembly also passed a required legal review by the Supreme Court, which will be forwarded to President Kabila for promulgation in the next few days, which we expect soon. That will set the stage for INEC reforms, including a new formulation of an oversight plenary and executive board. As that unfolds, we will need to examine, in collaboration with all engaged partners, the prospects and timing for needed pending democratic and transparent provincial and local elections to determine an appropriate engagement to support the process. That represents a critical phase of development for the nascent democracy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as for pending decentralization moves consistent with the 2006 Constitution and popular will, all in the general existing political context. It is too early to reach definite conclusions about how those processes can and will unfold. The issues represented,

however, are of obvious importance to the future of the country and its people.

I must also note that critical reviews of the existing stabilization and reconstruction plan for areas emerging from armed conflict/international strategy for security and stabilization programmes in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as moves to advance to formal adoption the Peace Consolidation Programme for other areas of the country, are also moving forward. All of them are of great importance for the stability and development of the country. All affect the issues of MONUSCO involvement, the transfer of functions, as possible, to country team members, and how key issues may be addressed generally. I should also note that all of those questions are directly linked as well to issues of security and stability in the eastern and other areas of the country; each is also important by itself.

Security sector reforms, most critically military reform efforts, also remain at the centre of key immediate priorities. President Kabila recently repeatedly reaffirmed the importance of that sector and his intentions to implement major new activities in that regard. However, it remains of vital importance to define a comprehensive strategy that provides the needed resources, engagements and expertise of all parties under Congolese Government overall direction. We will maintain an active dialogue with Government authorities to define how those initiatives may unfold.

I should also note significant recent progress in two key areas, including the formal adoption of a joint United Nations/Congolese Government action plan to stop and prevent underage recruitment, sexual violence against children and other grave child rights violations by FARDC and Congolese security services. We have made considerable progress to define associated specific actions, which represents a major and encouraging step forward in a long-standing area of concern. As well, I am pleased to report that we are nearing the formal adoption of the long-awaited multi-year joint justice programme, to be jointly signed by the Congolese Minister of Justice and the United Nations, with its implementation overseen by the Ministry of Justice. I am optimistic that that will be ready for adoption and signature in the near future. That will effectively complement our ongoing efforts with the military justice system in the fight against impunity, which remains a high priority. We will continue to pursue those activities as strongly as possible.

Finally, before I conclude, let me take note of the various discussions and options regarding potential modifications of the MONUSCO mandate. I strongly believe that such a review is appropriate. Indeed, I have already indicated some areas where I believe a modification is urgently needed, especially with regard to a new peace-enforcement capability. Let me also strongly urge that those discussions be held in full cognizance of the overall context and the limitations of MONUSCO's available human and other resources. Above all, I strongly urge that the temptation be resisted to add more to the already very substantial compilation of MONUSCO tasks and requirements. It is essential that mandate-tasking be tailored to a realistic appraisal of the overall context and available resources and capacities.

(spoke in French)

I should like to reiterate my sincere gratitude to all the members of the Security Council, as well as Member States, for their active support for MONUSCO and its personnel, who work under dangerous and difficult circumstances. Allow me to express to all of MONUSCO's personnel, military and civilian alike, a final word of gratitude and commendation against the backdrop of a very worrisome situation in the Kivus and Katanga. All United Nations staff carry out their work with perseverance, often in the most difficult of conditions, thereby demonstrating a spirit of sacrifice and commitment that honours the ideals of the United Nations. Blue Helmets and civilian personnel alike face the challenges associated with the mandate that the Council has entrusted to them with professionalism, courage and determination. In that regard, they deserve our gratitude and our admiration. My thanks go to them and to the Council for its support and attention.

The President: I thank Mr. Meece for his briefing.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mr. Gata Mavita wa Lufuta (Democratic Republic of the Congo) *(spoke in French)*: I would like to say once again how much we are honoured to see you, Mr. President, as the President of the Security Council at this time and to reassure you of my country's support in the success of your very noble task.

I thank the Council for the opportunity to speak at this meeting convened to consider the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This is also

an opportunity for me to especially thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who, since taking up the leadership of the Organization, has spared no effort to find a solution to ensure the return of lasting peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The signing on Sunday in Addis Ababa of the framework agreement on peace, security and cooperation in my country and in the Great Lakes region is further proof of his efforts.

I should like to welcome the presence of Mr. Roger Meece, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I thank him for giving the Council his assessment of the progress achieved since November 2012 in the implementation of resolution 2053 (2012).

I would like to begin, if I may, by first conveying the following three points.

First, strengthening the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and swiftly deploying an intervention force are major concerns for my Government at the moment. That effort, as we all know, is intended to respond to a real and urgent security need in the eastern part of my country. After many appeals by my Government, the Secretary-General and a number of partners, both bilaterally and multilaterally, we believe that the matter of strengthening MONUSCO's mandate is the correct thing to do and requires swift action by the Security Council.

Secondly, taking into account the fragility of the situation on the ground, my Government calls on the Security Council to consider as quickly as possible adopting a resolution to change MONUSCO's mandate.

Thirdly, with regard to human rights violations in the area of Minova that are purported to be committed by the forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, I should like to point out that the Government has never refuted those accusations; quite to the contrary, it has authorized the arrest of the perpetrators of those acts so that they can be brought to justice before the competent judicial bodies. That has been done, as noted in several paragraphs of the report before the Council (S/2013/96).

I would now like to turn to that report, which Mr. Meece has just introduced. I should first like to refer to the annexes.

First of all, I would like to reiterate my Government's support for the goals of the revised comprehensive

strategy that the Secretary-General proposes to replace the current International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy, as set out in annex I to the report. Our hope is that attention will be given to achieving the main goal, that is, promoting long-term economic development to ensure sustainable stability in that area of the country. With regard to the strategy and initiative to transfer responsibility for some of MONUSCO's tasks to members of the United Nations country team, as set out in annex II to the report, the Government will express itself on that point once it has had an opportunity to review the special report to be presented by the Secretary-General to the Council.

The Secretary-General's progress report, currently before the Council, clearly establishes that the activities of the Mouvement du 23 mars (M-23) have significant consequences on stability in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in the Great Lakes region, affecting hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians, as noted in paragraph 78 of the report. The same paragraph also concludes that the progress achieved on a number of fronts has been hampered, or even cancelled out, in certain areas. Moreover, the Secretary-General indicates that the M-23 enjoys external support for its destabilizing actions, which my delegation has repeatedly condemned, as has the Group of Experts in the clearest terms. The tension is widely known, so I shall not go into the details. However, I would urge those who still harbour doubts to read the Group's final report, dated 12 October 2012 (S/2012/843, annex), as well as its 18 May 2012 interim report and its annex (S/2012/348, annex). The reports highlight the role of external actors in the current destabilization of the situation in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

From a human rights and humanitarian assistance perspective, the cruelty of the acts attributed to M-23 terrorists and the foreign forces supporting them have resulted in a deteriorating situation that affects both North and South Kivu, as underscored in paragraph 45 of the Secretary-General's report. Numerous allegations of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law have been attributed to M-23 fighters during the period under consideration, especially in November 2012.

To return to the security situation in Goma, I commend MONUSCO's implementation of its internal security plan in the context of Operations Wide Awake and Silent Guns. Under the chapter on progress,

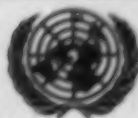
the report emphasizes the progress achieved in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with the adoption by the two houses of Parliament of the organic law establishing a national human rights commission, as well as the continuing discussions on security sector reform in general and reform of the armed forces in particular. In that connection, I should point out that the necessary legislation has already been adopted: law 11/012, of 11 August 2011, concerning the reorganization of the armed forces; law 11/013, also of 11 August 2011, on the organization and functioning of the national police; law 13/005, of 15 January 2013, concerning the military code for the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and the law governing the personnel of the national police, which is now being promulgated. Those efforts will be continued in order to give the

country an army capable of deterrence. What matters at the moment, and what the Congolese people expect as soon as possible, is the fulfilment of the promise to change MONUSCO's mandate, with a view to deploying the intervention brigade whose establishment has been announced.

In conclusion, we look forward eagerly to the issuance of the special report of the Secretary-General on the strategy to be followed in future.

The President: There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6926th meeting

 Tuesday, 26 February 2013, 10 a.m.
 New York

President:	Mr. Kim Sook	(Republic of Korea)
Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	Togo	Mr. M'Beou
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-24233 (E)



Please recycle



The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

The President: Under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I now give the floor to Mr. Feltman.

Mr. Feltman: We meet at a moment of heightened risk across multiple fronts in the Middle East. It is already two months into a year that could preserve or even extinguish what hope remains for a two-State solution. I do not believe that it is hyperbole to say that. Yet, as demonstrated today by the troubling rocket attack fired from Gaza into Israel, the temperature between Israelis and Palestinians is again rising, with the situation of Palestinian prisoners the most immediate but not the only cause. There is as yet no process of negotiation to offer hope on the horizon.

Meanwhile, in Syria, even tentative steps towards dialogue are struggling to take root. The destructive military spiral churns more forcefully each day and threatens to pull its neighbours, most notable and worrisome Lebanon, into its vortex. Opportunities exist to reverse those trends but not if the international community sits still. Stepped-up efforts by the Council and its members can make a substantial difference while there is still time to do so.

Turning first to the Middle East peace process, we have all voiced frustration at the failure over many years to break the impasse between Israelis and Palestinians. Yet resignation is not an acceptable option. Relying on the status quo — even if it were sustainable, which we do not believe is the case — would represent a failure on the part of the parties and the international community at the very time when we should seize opportunities to help the parties define and implement a final status agreement. It is now time for all of us to act decisively and with concerted purpose, including through a revitalized and relevant Quartet, but also beyond, if we are to salvage a two-State solution and realize the vision

of a State of Palestine and a State of Israel living side by side in peace and security. The United Nations stands ready to support any serious international initiative to that end.

In the aftermath of the Israeli elections on 22 January, international partners have been meeting and discussing how to move decisively towards creating the conditions by which a two-State solution may become reality, and not remain mere rhetoric. The Secretary-General has continued his engagement with both Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and Palestinian President Abbas. His recent meetings with European Union High Representative Catherine Ashton in New York and United States Secretary of State John Kerry in Washington, D.C., focused in part on the Middle East. In addition, Mr. Kerry and United States President Obama intend to visit the region next month, and Israeli and Palestinian negotiators have made separate preparatory trips to Washington, D.C. We look forward to this renewed United States engagement.

At a press conference on 19 February, Prime Minister Netanyahu reiterated his commitment to a two-State solution and a peace process that yields results. On the same occasion, he announced the appointment of Tzipi Livni, an experienced interlocutor, to lead negotiations. Palestinian President Abbas has also shown patience in allowing the time necessary to get a new process on track. Both sides must be prepared to embrace their responsibilities in order to engage fully with any credible new initiative and demonstrate goodwill and renewed commitment.

The dire fiscal situation of the Palestinians must be addressed. Fiscal stability is critical to safeguarding the achievements of Palestine's State-building agenda, including important progress that has been made in the Palestinian security services. With regard to the Palestinian Authority's financial situation, the Secretary-General notes with relief the decision by Israel to release Palestinian revenue clearances for January, and reminds the Israeli authorities that full transfer of Palestinian tax and customs revenues in a timely and predictable manner is an obligation that Israel accepted as part of the Paris Protocol, which remains in force. Timely donor contributions are also more important than ever. The meeting next month of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians will be an opportunity to renew the collective commitment

to supporting State-building efforts and promoting Palestinian financial and economic sustainability.

The United Nations continues to follow closely the security, political and human-rights dimensions of the issue of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli custody. On Saturday, we were concerned to learn that a Palestinian man, Arafat Jaradat, died in detention after his arrest by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) days earlier. Earlier today, Gaza militants from the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade cited this death in claiming responsibility for a rocket attack on Israel — a most troubling development. The prisoner's death also sparked a series of popular demonstrations and clashes, which, reports indicate, resulted in the IDF injuring 43 Palestinians. Two Israeli soldiers were also injured.

The United Nations underscores the importance of restoring and maintaining calm and calls for an independent and transparent investigation by Israeli authorities into the circumstances of Mr. Jaradat's death, the results of which should be made public as soon as possible. Also of particular concern is the deteriorating health of four prisoners who are on an extended hunger strike. The United Nations remains closely involved on the ground, and the Secretary-General has raised his concerns with Prime Minister Netanyahu, urging that a solution be reached without delay in order to end the prisoners' plight and preserve calm. He also recalled the importance of full adherence by all sides to the agreement of 14 May 2012, including implementation of the prisoners' families' visiting rights. It is the firm position of the United Nations that anyone in administrative detention without charges should be charged and face trial with judicial guarantees, in accordance with international standards, or be promptly released.

Operations by Israeli security forces in the occupied West Bank, including in Area A, have continued at a steady pace. According to reports, since our last briefing (see S/PV.6894), a total of 391 such operations have resulted in 617 Palestinians, including 116 children and 10 women, being injured and 491 being arrested, while nine Israeli soldiers have also been injured. Palestinians detained included two parliamentarians affiliated with Hamas, who were arrested on 4 February. The increased use of live fire by Israeli security forces directed at unarmed Palestinian civilians is of deep concern. On 23 January, a 22-year-old Palestinian woman was killed while walking on her college campus south of Bethlehem. On the same day,

a 15-year-old boy was shot dead by soldiers near the Al-Arroub refugee camp.

Settlement activity continued, with Israeli authorities giving final approval for the construction of 90 housing units in the settlement of Beit El. The Secretary-General has repeatedly stressed that settlements are illegal under international law. Israel should heed the calls of the international community to stop such activity. We are also looking into media reports that the Israeli Government authorized drilling to search for oil in the occupied Syrian Golan. Clashes between Palestinians and Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank resulted in injuries to 10 Palestinians, including two women and two children, while one teenage Israeli settler was injured by a Palestinian on 29 January. We deplore attacks committed as part of so-called price tag violence, which included the desecration of 10 Muslim tombstones in the Mamilla cemetery in West Jerusalem on 14 February.

Since my last briefing, Israeli security forces have demolished 30 structures in the occupied West Bank, resulting in the displacement of 89 Palestinians, including 49 children. We now have figures for the month of January, during which at least 139 Palestinian-owned structures, including 59 residential structures, were destroyed by the Israeli authorities, most of them in Area C, with the remainder in East Jerusalem. That is the highest number of such demolitions in a single month in more than two years.

Planning efforts to benefit Palestinian communities in Area C continue. Unfortunately, none of the 32 plans submitted to Israeli authorities, some since June 2010, have yet been approved. We call upon the Government of Israel to facilitate tangible progress if community-based planning is to be adopted as a constructive approach for many of the Palestinians concerned.

Palestinian demonstrations continued to be organized against the barrier, which deviates from the Green Line in contravention of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (see A/ES-10/273). Palestinians attempted to set up a number of encampments near the wall, to protest land confiscation, which were quickly dismantled by Israeli forces. A number of Palestinians were injured during demonstrations against the barrier, as well as in demonstrations in solidarity with prisoners on hunger strike, which I mentioned earlier. The Secretary-General stresses the importance for protests to remain

non-violent and for the right to peaceful protest to be fully respected.

With regard to Gaza, we are deeply troubled by today's rocket attack into Israel. There is no justification for such attacks, which not only target innocent civilians indiscriminately but which risk triggering a renewed spiral of violence that will only bring suffering to Palestinians and Israelis alike. We continue to condemn all indiscriminate rocket attacks from Gaza into Israel. We also urge Israel to demonstrate maximum restraint.

It is important for both sides to maintain their commitment to the ceasefire brokered in November 2012. It is the responsibility of the de facto authorities in the Gaza Strip to prevent any recurrence of today's attack. Until today's Palestinian rocket attack, this was the longest period without projectiles fired from Gaza in recent years. Both sides should work to consolidate the calm that prevailed before today. In the past month, Israeli forces conducted three incursions into Gaza, and a total of 14 Palestinian civilians were injured by Israeli fire, mostly while attempting to approach the border fence. On 21 February a Palestinian fishing boat was shot at by Israeli forces, resulting in injuries to a fisherman and damage to the boat.

It is essential that today's rocket attack not be repeated and not interrupt efforts to strengthen the understandings reached in November with the assistance of Egypt. The mechanism established in the Egyptian-brokered understanding is being implemented, and the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process remains engaged with concerned parties and the Egyptian mediation.

Israel continued to allow gravel for commercial use through the Kerem Shalom crossing. Israel has also allowed Palestinian farmers access up to 100 metres from the fence with Israel, and Palestinian fishermen have been able to access up to six nautical miles from shore. While such steps are welcome, we continue to advocate for a further extension of the fishing limit to 12 nautical miles, which is necessary for a significant increase in the catch of the fishermen, but still below the 20 nautical miles provided for in the 1995 Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement. We also call for unrestricted entry of all construction materials. Further measures to lift the closure should include transfers of goods between Gaza and West Bank, as well as exports to Israel and beyond.

To further advance this important agenda and address Israel's legitimate security interests, it is essential that parallel efforts continue to enforce the calm and prevent the smuggling of weapons into Gaza. There have been reports of Egyptian authorities closing large numbers of tunnels from the Sinai into Gaza. Separately, Egypt has permitted further entry of construction material through the Rafah crossing for a range of Qatar-funded projects.

I would like to reiterate that the full implementation of resolution 1860 (2009) includes the important step of overcoming the Palestinian political divide in ways that can advance the potential for a two-State solution. In that regard, the Palestinian Central Elections Commission was able to conduct voter registration from 11 to 20 February, in both the West Bank and Gaza, for the first time since 2007 — a result of the Cairo accord on reconciliation. A total of 450,000 new electors were registered, including 350,000 in Gaza, which represents a very high turnout. The updated Palestinian voter register should be available shortly. To that end, the United Nations encourages Israeli authorities to authorize the transfer of registration forms from Gaza to Ramallah.

Recent opinion polls suggest a popular demand for inclusion in a democratic process, including the holding of the long-overdue Palestinian general elections. Negotiations and ending the divide between the West Bank and Gaza under the leadership of President Abbas and adherence to Palestine Liberation Organization principles remain essential for achieving the two-State solution. The parties are expected to meet again soon in Cairo to commence consultations on Government formation. The United Nations remains of the view that negotiations and reconciliation is not an either/or proposition, and should be made compatible by advancing both in a mutually reinforcing way.

Turning to developments in the region, Syria continues to be a source of extreme concern for the United Nations. We are reminded every day of the heavy toll the civilians in Syria are paying. Citing the appalling number of civilian casualties, the Secretary-General strongly condemns the reported ballistic missile strikes in Aleppo as well as the series of bombings in Damascus. Let me repeat again the Secretary-General's call for the need to immediately end the supply of arms to both sides in this brutal conflict. Let me be clear: perpetrators of serious crimes will be held accountable.

There is no statute of limitations for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In its latest report (A/HRC/22/59), published on 5 February, the independent international commission of inquiry of the Human Rights Council concluded that both Government and opposition forces had become increasingly violent and reckless with human life. Both have committed abuses amounting to war crimes, although the scale of the abuses committed by the Government side significantly exceeds those of the opposition. Hospitals, bakeries and bread lines have been targeted. Whole neighbourhoods have been razed. Syria's rich cultural heritage is being destroyed.

As predicted, the war has also taken on sectarian overtones, permeated by opportunistic criminality and aggravated by the presence of foreign fighters and extremist groups, as well as by some actions of the Government, including its affiliated Shabbiha militia. This is simply an appalling picture. There should be no room in the future Syria for those who hold contempt for the beliefs, practices and symbols of other religious traditions, or who cite secularism as a pretext for trying to monopolize power predominantly in the hands of one group. There is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on any grounds. All communities must be assured that their rights will be respected.

Regrettably, the warring parties remain locked in a military logic that is bound to bring more death and destruction. In that context, the proposal for dialogue from Mr. Moaz Al-Khatib, President of the Syrian National Coalition, is a positive development. The Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the League of Arab States as well as the Joint Special Representative have welcomed this initiative. They called on all parties to engage, at the earliest, in talks based on the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012 (S/2012/523, annex), with a view to ensuring a political transition that would meet the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people, preserve the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the Syrian nation, and bring to an end the bloodshed, the humanitarian disaster and the destruction in Syria. The Secretary-General is encouraged by statements from Security Council members supporting Mr. Al-Khatib's proposal.

The humanitarian situation is becoming worse in Syria, as Under-Secretary-General Valerie Amos's briefing to the Council tomorrow will make clear. She

will provide more details on United Nations efforts to address the tragic humanitarian consequences of the conflict, which has left over 4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 2 million internally displaced, and has led more than 900,000 people to flee to neighbouring countries, including 150,000 this month alone.

The situation in the Golan also remains precarious, posing risks to the ceasefire between Israel and Syria and the safety and security of civilians and United Nations personnel. In recent days, the Area of Separation saw a spike in such confrontations. Allow me to reiterate that the primary responsibility for the safety and security of United Nations personnel in the Area of Separation and the areas of limitation on the Bravo side rests with the Syrian Government. Countries with influence should also impress upon the armed members of the opposition the importance of ensuring the freedom of movement and the safety of the personnel of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the occupied Golan.

Concern remains high about the ongoing impact of the Syrian conflict on Lebanon. While the overall situation in Lebanon remains stable, tensions have increased in the north-eastern border areas. On 1 February, an operation by the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) near Aarsal resulted in the deaths of a man wanted for terrorism and of two LAF soldiers. On 16 and 22 February, there were again tensions in border areas as a result of cross-border shellings, the deaths of Hizbullah fighters and threats of escalation. On 24 February, further fighting along the border resulted in at least two Lebanese deaths, prompting President Sleiman publicly to react, stressing the need for continued commitment to Lebanon's disassociation policy and urging the Syrian side to refrain from shooting or firing missiles towards Lebanon's territory.

We are concerned at any actions that risk drawing Lebanon into the conflict in Syria. Continued reports of arms transfers to and through Lebanon are contrary to international obligations. We call on all sides to respect the integrity of the border and Lebanon's sovereignty, as well as on all Lebanese parties to honour their commitments under the Baabda Declaration of June 2012.

On 4 February, a Lebanese court issued arrest warrants for Syrian General Ali Mamlouk and an unnamed aide for their alleged involvement in a terrorist plot in Lebanon, along with former Minister Michel

Samaha. On 20 February, a judge issued indictments against all three suspects.

The situation along the Blue Line remained generally calm. However, there was an increase in the number of Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace, notably ahead of the air strike in Syria on 30 January. The Secretary-General called on all concerned to prevent tensions or escalations and to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all countries in the region.

On 21 February, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon announced the postponement of the start of the trial provisionally scheduled for 25 March. A new tentative date is expected to be set soon. The eighth anniversary of the assassination of the late Rafik Hariri, on 14 February, underlines the need to achieve justice for past assassinations and attempted ones, including in the past year.

Meanwhile, consensus has not yet been reached on a draft law for the Lebanese parliamentary elections scheduled for June. Free, fair and credible elections in a timely fashion are important for Lebanon's stability and continued political advancement. All parties are therefore encouraged to work to ensure that elections take place on a consensual basis within the legal and constitutional timeframe.

In conclusion, let me emphasize that it is our strong belief that we need to inject new life in the Israeli-Palestinian political process now. We know that there

are negative forces on both sides, such as those who fired today's rocket from Gaza into Israel, who draw strength from stalemate and paralysis. Both sides have a responsibility to marginalize those forces by creating the conditions, including trust, for a successful negotiating process. It is now my hope that the shared sense of frustration will translate into a shared sense of urgency. Given the lack of confidence that, unfortunately, characterizes the Israeli-Palestinian relationship today, we cannot underestimate how difficult it will be to develop a serious and substantial political initiative, with a realistic and not unlimited timeframe, and one that is collectively supported by all stakeholders.

But it is our view that one cannot expect progress this year without the articulation of a credible political framework to achieve the negotiated two-State solution that we all hope for and that will best serve the interests, rights and aspirations of Palestinians and Israelis alike. This is a time for renewed impetus and political will to end the conflict and the occupation, which has already scarred the lives of far too many Israelis and Palestinians for far too long. We need to act now, first and foremost for the sake of the younger generations. They deserve a future of peace.

The President: I thank Mr. Feltman for his briefing.

I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
28 February 2012

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 6927th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

**Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday,
28 February 2013, at 10 a.m.**

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

“At its 6927th meeting, held in private on 28 February 2013, the Security Council considered the item entitled ‘Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)’.

“The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, the People’s Republic of Laos, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Yemen and Zambia to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council’s provisional rules of procedure.

“In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council’s prior consultations, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the Council’s provisional rules of procedure to the representative of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

“The members of the Council had an exchange of views.”





Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6928th meeting

Tuesday, 5 March 2013, 3 p.m.

New York

President: Mr. Churkin (Russian Federation)

Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Musayev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Araud
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Rwanda	Mr. Gasana
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Special Report of the Secretary-General on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region (S/2013/119)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-24890 (E)



Please recycle



The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Expression of thanks to the outgoing President

The President (*spoke in Russian*): I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to His Excellency Mr. Kim Sook, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, for his service as President of the Security Council for the month of February 2013. I am sure I speak for all members of the Council in expressing deep appreciation to Ambassador Kim and his team for the great diplomatic skill with which they conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Special Report of the Secretary-General on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region (S/2013/119)

The President (*spoke in Russian*): In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/119, which contains the special report of the Secretary-General on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region.

I wish to welcome the presence of the Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon, to whom I now give the floor.

The Secretary-General: The Mouvement du 23 Mars (M-23) mutiny that began in April 2012 brought yet another wave of misery to the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Hundreds of thousands of people were displaced. Countless innocent men, women and children suffered horrendous acts of violence, rape and other forms of sexual violence, abduction and summary execution. The fighting has stopped, but insecurity prevails — and it is growing in other areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Perhaps some would dismiss the recent unrest in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as yet another cycle of violence in a long-plagued region of the world. But we have it within our grasp to break that cycle and shape something different. Longer-term stability in the entire region is possible, but it requires us to collectively commit to addressing the root causes of the violence.

That is why I have reached out to regional leaders and joined with them to find a durable solution. We came together at the margins of the General Assembly last September and at the African Union Summit in January. We agreed that military action alone would not deliver for the people of the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A lasting solution requires at least four ingredients.

First, it must be anchored in the political will of the leaders of all the countries of the region. Secondly, it must address the structural causes that are fuelling instability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo itself. Thirdly, it must respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and legitimate concerns and interests of all countries concerned. Fourthly, it demands the commitment and long-term support of the international community.

Building on existing and ongoing regional peace and security initiatives, we developed an innovative and comprehensive approach. We focused on addressing the root causes of the recurring cycle of violence through a combination of actions at the national, regional and international levels. The approach is presented in my special report before the Council (S/2013/119), and it also formed the basis of the Framework for Peace, Security and Cooperation for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region, signed on 24 February in Addis Ababa.

The signing of the Framework represents a historic opportunity. Eleven countries of the Great Lakes region have committed to respecting the sovereignty and integrity of their neighbours, to strengthening economic integration and to neither tolerating nor providing support to armed groups. The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has also committed to undertaking significant internal reforms, such as army reform, decentralization, the expansion of infrastructure and basic social services delivery, reconciliation and democratization.

The chairs of the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, the Southern African Development Community and I are acting as co-guarantors of the Framework. All of us understand that signing the Framework is a beginning, not an end. Implementation is essential, and innovative national and regional oversight mechanisms have been included in the Framework.

Multitrack action plans with benchmarks that will ensure the measurement of progress must be developed. The regional oversight mechanism has the format of a peer review among all signatories. That mechanism, composed of the 11+4 signatories of the Framework, will meet at the highest level twice a year to review progress on its implementation. That meeting will take place every January at the margins of the African Union Summit and each September at the annual session of the General Assembly. I will also appoint a special envoy who, together with concerned stakeholders, will support the implementation of the Framework, including through benchmarks to measure national and regional progress.

Supporting the implementation of the national commitments set out in the Framework — and consistent with the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) — my Special Representative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo will play a central role in promoting inclusive and transparent political dialogue among concerned stakeholders as a key priority.

To further support the political objectives of the Framework, my report also proposes the establishment within MONUSCO of an intervention brigade. The intervention brigade will have the ability to conduct, with or without the Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo, offensive operations against all armed groups that threaten the peace in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. That enforcement capacity, which was initially called for by the regional actors, seeks to address the imminent threats to stability and will provide the most appropriate response to the active conflict environment in which MONUSCO has been operating for several years.

The intervention brigade will be tasked with containing the expansion of Congolese and foreign armed groups alike, neutralizing those groups and disarming them. That will provide much needed capacity

to our peacekeeping operation. We are now consulting with current MONUSCO troop-contributing countries and potential contributors to the international brigade in order to prepare, should the Council agree, for a rapid deployment of the brigade. The security situation remains fragile and demands urgent actions. I call on the Security Council to authorize the deployment of the brigade and to provide it with the necessary political backing.

The effective implementation of the commitments and oversight mechanisms will require the long-term efforts of the international community, including the Security Council. Structural reforms in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the commitments made at the regional level will need the international community's sustained support and heightened attention. The Council should remain seized of the progress made in implementing the provisions of the Framework. Commitments must be translated into results.

The latest crisis in North Kivu has displaced 900,000 civilians, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to 2.6 million. The people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo deserve to live normal lives and not be subject to rape, abduction, exactions, fear or worse. We owe them our best efforts to tackle the root causes of their insecurity.

Eleven Heads of State and Government have proclaimed their commitment to uniting for this cause. I call on the Council today to support them. Let us offer the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo not only hope, but a concrete engagement for the peace and stability they have so long deserved.

The President (spoke in Russian): I thank the Secretary-General for his statement.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mr. Gata Mavita wa Lufuta (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (*spoke in French*): Allow me, at the outset, to express my satisfaction at seeing you, Sir, preside over the Security Council during the month of March. You represent a country, the Russian Federation, with which the Democratic Republic of the Congo has excellent relations of respect and mutual esteem.

Let me also take this opportunity to commend your predecessor, the representative of the Republic of Korea, and to express our appreciation for the mastery

with which he led the work of the Security Council last month, as well as for the zeal, expertise and competence with which he discharged his task.

I also wish to pay fitting tribute to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, whose briefing today, in my delegation's view, conveyed his ongoing concern for the restoration and consolidation of peace in my country. We can never thank him enough for having been so personally invested in the search for a lasting solution to the instability prevailing in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We are convinced that, thanks to his personal involvement, the world Organization will help the Congolese people and its young democracy to flourish in the full realization of its political and socioeconomic aspirations.

I shall never cease to remind the Council that, following the democratic elections of 2006 and 2011, the populations of North Kivu and South Kivu had good reason to hope for the advent of a lasting peace in that part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Those hopes were amply justified by the success of the joint military operations of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo. Progress has been made in reducing threats against the safety of people and improved security management by the Government.

The language of arms and violence has prevailed once more in North Kivu, ever since the terrorists of the Mouvement du 23 mars (M-23), who had deserted the ranks of the Congolese army, turned their weapons against the regular army with immeasurable external support. The situation has again disrupted the efforts of the Government and its partners to stabilize and consolidate peace in that part of the country. It is in that context that the Congolese people welcomes the signing in Addis Ababa on 24 February of the Framework for Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region.

After decades of tumultuous relations with certain neighbouring countries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the international community — through the United Nations, the African Union and its regional groupings the Southern African Development Community and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region — is sponsoring a process that establishes and defines overall conditions for lasting peace in the Great Lakes region. That ideal is the focus of the the Secretary-General's new strategy, which

should help to address the causes of recurrent crises and to find a sound political solution. He has just announced the road map for that strategy.

I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General on behalf of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and to commend his efforts to unite the leaders of the region around the Framework. That agreement is a catalyst for the management of the current crisis. In the words of the leader of the Congolese diplomatic corps, Raymond Tshibanda N'tungamulongo, Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Francophonie of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, it is:

"a trigger that will create a rapid intervention brigade integrated within MONUSCO, with a mandate of peace enforcement and sophisticated equipment".

The Congolese people and Government place great hopes in the two initiatives arising from the agreement. They will have a significant impact on the activities of the refurbished MONUSCO, including through the addition of unmanned aerial systems to its monitoring capabilities and an intervention brigade whose mandate would be much more robust than traditional United Nations peacekeeping mandates. Such a component is essential to creating the conditions necessary to obtain the commitment of all the parties to achieving lasting peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region.

That is why I would like to reassure the Council most of the commitments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo are already under way, pursuant to the programme of the Congolese Government and in the spirit of the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In the agreement, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has renewed its commitment to continuing and deepening the reform of the security sector, particularly with regard to the army and the police; strengthening State authority, especially in the eastern part of the country, including by preventing armed groups from destabilizing neighbouring countries; promoting economic development, including through the expansion of infrastructure and the provision of basic social services; and promoting the structural reform of State institutions, including finance reform, and the objectives of national reconciliation, tolerance and democracy.

The Special Report of the Secretary-General on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region (S/2013/119), which is now before the Council, proposes a host of measures to be taken at the national and regional levels. It also sets out recommendations that my country supports, in particular with regard to the support of the international community, the call for stepped-up political efforts by the United Nations, and strengthening MONUSCO.

As recently as on Friday, 22 February, Mr. Roger Meece, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of MONUSCO, expressed his concern at the ongoing deterioration of security conditions in the eastern part of the country (see S/PV.6925). Mr. Meece called openly, and rightly, for strengthening the military means at the disposal of the Blue Helmets.

I should like to say to the Council that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all our people consider the reconfiguration of MONUSCO's mandate and the swift deployment of the intervention brigade as major concerns. As we all know, that undertaking aims at responding to a genuine and urgent security need in the eastern part of my country. My country, the Secretary-General and many bilateral and multilateral partners have long called for strengthening MONUSCO's mandate. We believe that that issue is now sufficiently pressing and that it requires speedy action by the Security Council. To that end, my Government should like to make some requests of the Secretary-General and the Council.

Following the conclusion of the Framework Agreement, we ask that the Secretary-General finalize the list of prerequisites for the deployment of the brigade. In particular, we ask that he quickly appoint a special envoy tasked with supporting the countries of the region and helping them to follow up the progress made in connection with the goals that have been set to help implement the Framework. We also call on him to promote the speedy implementation of all aspects of the Framework Agreement.

Given the urgency of the matter and the fragility of the situation on the ground, we call on the Security Council to quickly adopt a resolution authorizing a change in MONUSCO's mandate to make it much more robust. We also ask that the Council quickly authorize the speedy deployment of the intervention brigade in order to eradicate the negative forces, including the M-23, as well as to help to ensure closer monitoring of the country's eastern border in order to prevent foreign incursions, as well as to prevent all support to armed groups operating in that part of the country, including M-23 terrorists.

Moreover, my Government calls on the States of the region to implement in goodwill the commitments into which they freely entered. Among other things, we call on them to change their policies, behaviour and attitudes. Under the Framework Agreement, the countries of the region committed themselves not to interfere in the internal affairs of neighbouring States or to tolerate or provide assistance or any type of support to armed groups, as well as to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring States.

Lastly, as the Council will shortly move to informal consultations to continue its discussion of the subject, I should like to conclude by asking that members take to heart the suffering of the Congolese people, of the children separated from their families and of the women who are raped every day. Above all, members should not forget that in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, more than in other zones of conflict throughout the world, thousands of people continue to be the victims of war on a daily basis. With approximately 8 million killed in the course of 15 years of successive wars, the slaughter of civilians in my country presents one of the darkest pictures that humankind has seen since the Second World War.

The President (spoke in Russian): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. I now invite Council members to informal consultations to continue our discussion on the subject.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.



Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6929th meeting

Wednesday, 6 March 2013, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Churkin	(Russian Federation)
Members:	Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Bouchaara
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Shin Dong Ik
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Mr. Cenzer

Agenda

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2013/69)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-306.

13-24952 (E)



Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Hugo Chávez Frías, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The President (spoke in Russian): At the outset of the meeting, I should like, on behalf of the members of the Security Council, to express our deepest sympathy to the Government and people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in connection with the death of President Hugo Chávez Frías, on 5 March 2013. May I ask the members of the Security Council to join me in observing a minute of silence to honour the memory of the deceased Venezuelan President.

The members of the Security Council observed a minute of silence.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia (S/2013/69)

The President (spoke in Russian): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representative of Somalia to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/132, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2013/69, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on Somalia.

It is my understanding that the Security Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda,

Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (spoke in Russian): The draft resolution received 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2093 (2013).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements after the voting.

Mr. Rosenthal (Guatemala) (spoke in Spanish): Guatemala voted in favour of resolution 2093 (2013) given the importance of supporting the efforts of the Government of Somalia, the United Nations and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Thanks to such collective efforts, Somalia now has new prospects. Similarly, we support the extension of AMISOM's mandate until 28 February 2014. We think that the resolution just adopted provides for an orderly process of integration and strengthening of the United Nations presence in Somalia.

We also acknowledge the significant progress made in stabilizing and pacifying the country, or at least parts of it, including its main urban centre. However, we wish to place on record that we believe that the progress made does not yet justify the lifting of the arms embargo alluded to in paragraph 33 of the resolution. We believe that the Security Council should have adopted a phased approach in order to prevent the possible repercussions of a sudden suspension of the embargo from subsequently jeopardizing the stabilization efforts in Somalia. That is another way of saying that our delegation supported the recommendations of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group on the issue. They provided Somalia the ability to develop its security sector without having to modifying the arms embargo.

We trust that, with the adoption of this resolution, the international community will redouble its commitment to accelerating security sector reform in Somalia and will support it in establishing the necessary safeguards for an already operational system that ensures adequate arms control.

Mrs. Perceval (Argentina) (spoke in Spanish): At the outset, I would like to convey our most heartfelt condolences to the family and to the people and Government of the sisterly Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the death of their President, Hugo Chávez Frías. The ideals of solidarity with the continent that he

embodied are an inspiration for the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Argentina supported the adoption of resolution 2093 (2013), which is a vote of confidence in the Government of Somalia given the improvement in the security situation in that country and its progress in implementing the road map, establishing the new Parliament and electing President Mohamud. That relative progress was achieved under the arms embargo. We therefore trust that the future acquisition of weapons by the Federal Government of Somalia does not hamper the provision of resources necessitated by the complex and urgent humanitarian situation in Somalia.

Argentina also hopes that the measures for monitoring the destination and use of weapons provided for in the resolution are effective, reliable and efficient. The eyes of the Council and of the entire international community are on Somalia. We hope and trust that within a year, when the time comes to consider the renewal of the partial lifting of the arms embargo, we will be able to say that we have done the right thing

The President (spoke in Russian): The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.



Security Council

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6930th meeting

Wednesday, 6 March 2013, 10.15 a.m.

New York

President: Mr. Churkin (Russian Federation)

Members:

Argentina	Mrs. Perceval
Australia	Mr. Quinlan
Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
China	Mr. Wang Min
France	Mr. Briens
Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
Republic of Korea	Mr. Shin Dong Ik
Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirhe
Togo	Mr. Menan
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

Non-proliferation

Briefing by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-25029 (E)



Please recycle



The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Non-proliferation

Briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)

The President (*spoke in Russian*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

At this meeting, the Security Council will hear a briefing by Ambassador Gary Quinlan, Permanent Representative of Australia, in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006).

I now give the floor to Ambassador Quinlan.

Mr. Quinlan (Australia): I have the honour to present the 90-day report of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), in accordance with paragraph 18 (h) of the same resolution. The report covers the period from 5 December 2012 to 4 March 2013, during which time the Committee held one meeting and conducted additional work using the non-objection procedure envisioned by paragraph 15 of the guidelines for the conduct of its work.

At the informal consultations on 13 February, the Committee exchanged preliminary views on a case reported by a Member State in a note verbale dated 6 February 2013, according to which the authorities of that State had intercepted, on 23 January, a vessel that it suspected was carrying illicit weapons from Iran to be delivered to that State. Given the serious allegations contained in the report, the Committee encouraged the Panel of Experts to expedite its investigation of the incident and report to the Committee on its findings. The Committee stands ready to examine in an impartial and objective manner and, based on solid evidence, take appropriate action upon receipt of that report from the Panel.

The Committee also discussed the incident report by the Panel dated 11 January 2013 on the missile launches by Iran during the Great Prophet 7 exercise, conducted from 2 to 4 July 2012. Members of the Committee took note of the Panel's conclusion that Iran's launches of

Shahab-1 and Shahab-3 missiles during the exercises constituted a violation of paragraph 9 of resolution 1929 (2010). Several Committee members expressed great concern that Iran's launches represented a clear violation of resolution 1929 (2010), condemned the launches and suggested that the Committee consider appropriate actions in response. The Committee is currently exploring those options. In the meantime, the Committee emphasizes the importance of all Member States redoubling their efforts to implement all measures required in resolutions 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007), 1803 (2008) and 1929 (2010).

As my predecessor informed the Council in December (see S/PV.6888), the Panel had been tasked by the Committee with compiling publicly available statements made by Iranian officials and alleged recipients of Iranian military assistance regarding potential violations of paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007). The compilation was transmitted by the Panel to the Committee on 14 December 2012, and was considered at the informal consultations I mentioned earlier. During the discussion, several members expressed the view that it would be appropriate to send a letter to Iran inquiring as to the veracity of the statements reflected in the compilation.

While not questioning the possibility of sending such a letter to Iran in the future, other members believed that the Committee should be prudent and that further efforts should be made first in order to obtain material evidence of the alleged arms transfers mentioned in the statements. The Committee believes strongly that any transfer of arms or related materiel in violation of paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007) is a matter of grave concern. In line with its mandate, the Committee stands ready to examine alleged violations in an impartial and objective manner and, based on solid evidence, to take appropriate action regarding them. Furthermore, during the informal consultations, the Panel briefed the Committee on its investigative and outreach activities.

During the reporting period, the Committee received communications from five Member States relating to action they had taken in implementation of the relevant Security Council measures. One of those was the letter I mentioned earlier concerning a possible violation of paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007), which was discussed by the Committee at its informal consultations on 13 February. In the second, dated 17 January 2013, a State informed the Committee of

an alleged breach of the embargo on Iran by a company located in that State. In the third, on 24 January 2013, a State provided details relating to the inspection and seizure, on 15 March 2011, of three shipping containers of arms and related materiel onboard the ship *M/V Victoria*. In the fourth, on 1 February 2013, a State reported to the Committee the arrest of a businessman suspected of violating the national law implementing the relevant United Nations sanctions measures. Lastly, the fifth State transmitted, on 14 February, a report on the shipments confiscated by its respective authorities during the second quarter of 2012, and on measures taken to prevent transit of shipments to Iran that are suspected to contain prohibited items. All those cases are currently being investigated by the Panel.

The Committee is pleased that States are responding to its requests for information on reported incidents of non-compliance. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all States to cooperate with the Committee and its Panel of Experts in reporting and investigating possible sanctions violations.

Following up on the Panel's findings in other cases of non-compliance, the Committee agreed, on 20 December 2012, to designate two entities, namely, Yas Air and SAD Import Export Company. A note verbale was sent on 8 January 2013 to all Member States informing them of the designations. On a related matter, the Committee sent, on 23 January 2013, another note verbale to all States requesting them to provide, on a voluntary basis, additional identifying information regarding the individuals on the Committee's consolidated list. I take this opportunity to renew that request for information.

The Committee continues its efforts to assist States implement the relevant Security Council measures. I am pleased to report that the Committee adopted, on 26 December 2012, an implementation assistance notice (IAN) on conventional arms and related materiel and, on 27 February of this year, an IAN on financial and business measures. Both were posted on the Committee's website.

The Committee decided, on 4 March, to update the lists of nuclear-related and ballistic missile-related items referred to in paragraph 13 of resolution 1929 (2010). The updated lists are available on the Committee's website.

During the reporting period, the Committee received a number of written inquiries concerning

the application of the sanctions. In two letters dated 16 January 2013, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) requested confirmation that two proposals for technical assistance to Iran by UNIDO did not contravene the applicable Security Council sanctions regime. On 1 February, the Committee informed UNIDO that the projects were not prohibited by the relevant resolutions.

In a letter dated 10 December 2012, a State sought information from the Committee on the return of the funds concerning an advance payment made by the Ministry of Defence of the Islamic Republic of Iran to a company located in that State. As the contract was signed before 2007, when the relevant measures were imposed, the Committee advised the State that there were no obstacles to the return of funds.

The Committee also received communications from two Member States, one dated 10 December 2012 and the other 4 January 2013, requesting information as to whether certain specified entities were included in the consolidated list of individuals and entities subject to the travel ban and assets freeze pursuant to the relevant Council resolutions. Committee members exchanged views as to the possible ways to respond to such queries during the informal consultations I mentioned earlier.

In addition, the Committee received a communication dated 20 February from a State requesting an exemption from the travel ban on a designated Iranian national who had been invited to attend the high-level International Atomic Energy Agency conference on nuclear power in the twenty-first century in Saint Petersburg from 27 to 29 June 2013. The request is currently under consideration by the Committee.

The Committee also received four notifications: three from a Member State with reference to paragraph 5 (c) of resolution 1737 (2006), concerning the delivery of items for use in the nuclear power plant in Bushehr, Iran; and one from another Member State submitted pursuant to paragraph 15 of resolution 1737 (2006) and paragraph 4 of resolution 1747 (2007), in connection with the unfreezing of funds to make a payment due under a contract entered into prior to the listing of an entity.

Finally, I am very happy to note that during the reporting period the Committee received a report from Saudi Arabia on the implementation of resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1929 (2010).

The President (*spoke in Russian*): I thank Ambassador Quinlan for his briefing.

I shall now give the floor to members of the Council.

Mr. Wang Min (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): I wish to thank Ambassador Quinlan for his briefing. Since assuming his role as Chairman of the Committee, he has guided its work in an orderly manner, for which China would like to register its appreciation.

China attaches great importance to the work of the Committee. We are ready to work with all parties in a spirit of pragmatism and stability to conduct balanced and effective work. The relevant Security Council resolutions on the nuclear issue should be comprehensively implemented. However, sanctions are not the ultimate purpose of those resolutions. The Committee and Panel of Experts should serve the purpose of settling the issue via diplomatic means. The Committee recently came up with allegations regarding certain cases and we hope that it will, based on the principles of caution and objectivity, fully consult with the relevant countries and resolve those problems on the basis of solid evidence.

The Iranian issue has a bearing on the authority of the regime of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and on peace and stability in the Middle East. Dialogue and negotiations are the only way to resolve the issue. China has consistently opposed the use or threat of use of force. China does not agree that excessive pressure should be put on Iran, or that new sanctions should be introduced. Some countries, which have imposed unilateral sanctions and wilfully expanded their scope, are undermining the legitimate interests and rights of other countries. China is opposed to such an approach.

Positive results were achieved previously as a result of the Almaty dialogue on the Iranian nuclear issue, which marked a first step towards launching substantive negotiations conducive to finding a solution to the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiation. China has long striven to keep the issue on the right track. China hopes that all parties will strengthen trust and create conditions conducive to a comprehensive, long-term and appropriate solution to Iran's nuclear issue. We also encourage Iran to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency. China is ready to continue to work with all parties in a constructive effort to find a peaceful solution to the Iranian nuclear issue through diplomatic means.

Sir Mark Lyall Grant (United Kingdom): I would like to thank the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), under the new and able chairmanship of Ambassador Quinlan, as well as the Panel of Experts, for their work in supporting the implementation of the Security Council's resolutions on Iran.

The United Kingdom, like others in the international community, remains deeply concerned by Iran's nuclear programme. The 21 February report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (see S/2013/103) shows that Iran continues to enrich uranium and expand its enrichment capacity, including with the installation of 180 advanced centrifuges at Natanz. This development comes closely on the heels of the full installation of the Fordow enrichment facility, as reported by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in November 2012. These actions are in contravention of the resolutions of both the IAEA Board of Governors and the Security Council.

Iran's stockpile of nearly 20-per cent enriched uranium continues to grow and is already far in excess of its current needs. The IAEA Director General's report highlights yet again Iran's continued failure to engage on the possible military dimensions of its nuclear programme. We are now 15 months from the IAEA's first report on possible military dimensions. Iran must show that it is prepared to take the urgent action necessary to address the international community's serious concerns and be judged on its actions, not on its words.

The United Kingdom remains committed to finding a peaceful, negotiated solution to the nuclear issue. Representatives of the E3+3 Governments met representatives of Iran on 26 and 27 February in Kazakhstan. Those were useful discussions, and the United Kingdom looks forward to further progress by experts in March on the revised and credible proposal that the E3+3 has put to Iran. That proposal is intended to build confidence on both sides and move negotiations forward.

Iran has much to gain from a diplomatic resolution to the nuclear issue, but we are clear on the need for talks to deliver results. It is vital that progress now be made on addressing the most immediate concerns about Iran's nuclear programme.

Turning to the work of the 1737 Committee, we note with regret that the Panel of Experts confirms that

Iran continues to breach its international obligations. A blatant and worrying example is Iran's ballistic missile launches, highlighted in the Panel's 11 January report. The evidence of this breach is compelling, and the Panel was clear that these launches of ballistic missiles in a military context by Iran constitute a violation of resolution 1929 (2010).

The 1737 Committee must now act on this breach. It should, as a first step, write to Iran to express its concern at the violation and ask Iran to provide a response. The Committee should issue an implementation assistance notice regarding this incident, highlighting to Member States the ban on transferring technology or technical assistance to Iran regarding ballistic missile activities. We also encourage the Panel to investigate and share in its final report in May the names of individuals and entities responsible.

We are also concerned by the Panel of Experts' compilations of statements on the transfer of arms to Gaza by Iran, which indicate that Iran has breached resolution 1747 (2007). Iran's support to militant groups, such as Hamas, directly undermines prospects for peace in the region and further undermines the Iranian Government's claim to the international community and to its own people that it supports stability in the Middle East. We are furthermore dismayed by the boldness of the Iranian public statements that seek to undermine the credibility of the Security Council and its resolutions. The United Kingdom calls on the Panel to continue to monitor this issue, identify individuals and entities responsible and include recommendations on designations in their final report.

The United Kingdom also notes with concern the recent report from Yemen on the seizure of illicit arms reported by the Government of Yemen as coming from Iran. That transfer appears to be a violation that threatens to undermine Yemen's fragile transition. We look forward to the Panel's report of its recent inspection visit. The Committee should be prepared to take action if the Panel's evidence confirms the violation.

It is time for Iran's leaders to engage. They cannot continue to ignore the serious concerns of the international community over Iran's nuclear programme and its violations of Security Council resolutions. If Iran aspires to be treated as a normal non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, it must now take urgent and concrete steps to fully address those concerns. Until it makes

the choice to engage, it will face the consequences of increased pressure and isolation.

Ms. Rice (United States of America): I would like to thank Ambassador Quinlan for his first briefing as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). We appreciate the focus and energy that he and his team are bringing to this Committee.

The Iranian nuclear issue remains one of the gravest threats to international security and a top priority for the Security Council. We meet today at a time of new opportunities but growing risks. In recent weeks, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General has reaffirmed yet again that Iran continues to advance its nuclear programme and obstruct the IAEA's investigation into the programme's possible military dimensions by refusing to grant the IAEA access to the Parchin site and to documents, personnel and equipment requested by the Agency. Those actions, as well as Iran's continued enrichment and heavy water-related activities, are in clear violation of the Council's demands. More alarming still, the IAEA Director General has confirmed that Iran is now further contravening Security Council resolutions by installing hundreds of second-generation centrifuges that could significantly increase its uranium enrichment capacity. The installation of those centrifuges, as well as Iran's stockpiling of 20-per cent enriched uranium and continued enrichment at the Fordow facility, are cause for serious concern.

Those actions are unnecessary and thus provocative. Iran already has enough enriched uranium to fuel the Tehran Research Reactor for at least a decade. Increasing that capacity without any clear civilian use makes no sense. Iran's actions neither build international confidence nor bring us closer to a comprehensive and peaceful solution. On the contrary, they raise the world's concerns. For this very reason, the work of the Iran sanctions Committee is vital. As long as Iran rejects its international obligations, we must be resolute in implementing fully the sanctions the Council has imposed.

In recent months, we have witnessed troubling new violations of those sanctions. In January, Yemen seized a vessel transporting a very large cache of sophisticated Iranian arms, ammunition and explosives, in violation of resolution 1747 (2007). Those arms could have destabilized Yemen's fragile transition. We urge the

Committee, with the support of the Panel of Experts, to investigate that case rigorously and work with the Council to craft a worthy response.

We have also observed more public statements acknowledging Iran's illicit arms smuggling. Representatives of Hamas, Hizbullah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and even Iran itself are now publicly admitting to activities that violate United Nations sanctions. The Committee should consider those statements as additional proof of Iran's blatant disregard for its obligations and follow up to the fullest extent possible.

The Committee is now also assessing Iranian missile launches that have violated resolution 1929 (2010). Those launches allow Iran to refine and develop a technology that, if ever combined with weapons of mass destruction, would constitute an intolerable threat to international peace and security. We urge the Committee, in line with its mandate, to take swift and sure action in response, including by imposing targeted sanctions on those responsible for such violations.

Each and every violation of United Nations sanctions is a serious matter. It is our collective responsibility to report on those cases, to support efforts to investigate them, and to act decisively when investigations are completed. Responding effectively to those incidents bolsters both the Council's credibility and the efficiency of diplomatic efforts to resolve the Iranian nuclear issue.

The United States remains committed to a diplomatic solution. Therefore, we welcome the recently resumed dialogue between the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany (P5+1) and Iran. But let us not forget that dialogue is only a means to an end. Our goal remains a durable and comprehensive solution to the Iranian nuclear issue that restores international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme, in accordance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and in compliance with all relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors.

As a first step, we seek to address Iran's most significant nuclear activities — the production and accumulation of uranium enriched to near 20 per cent and the installation of additional centrifuges at Fordow. In that event, the P5+1 countries have demonstrated that we are willing to take steps to respond to Iran's expressed concerns.

The talks between the P5+1 and Iran in Almaty were useful, but we must see whether real progress towards a negotiated solution can result from the renewed process. The process cannot continue indefinitely or be used as a stalling mechanism. Therefore, we remain committed to the dual-track approach, mounting pressure on Iran as we pursue meaningful dialogue in good faith. Working together we can continue to clarify for Iran the consequences of its actions and show Iran the benefits of choosing cooperation over provocation.

Mr. Masood Khan (Pakistan): We thank Ambassador Gary Quinlan for presenting the report on the activities of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and the Panel of Experts. Ambassador Quinlan has worked with ardour and brought new energy to the Committee. We also take note of the recent report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the implementation of safeguards under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in Iran.

The Council and the 1737 (2006) Committee have made considerable efforts to address the issues relating to Iran's nuclear programme. We take this opportunity today to reaffirm the need for the Council to consider revisiting objectives and strategy as set out in the relevant resolutions. We welcome the resumption of diplomatic efforts between the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany (P5+1) and Iran. We hope that recent positive and conciliatory overtures and statements will not only improve the atmosphere but lead to results. Affirmation by all sides of their faith in negotiations is important. There may be a way out of the current impasse through consistent engagement.

A peaceful resolution of the issues is possible on the basis of reciprocal confidence-building measures and the necessary steps to ensure Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Council and the Committee need to lend their support to those efforts. It is essential to avert confrontation over Iran's nuclear programme, which has the potential to destabilize the immediate neighbourhood of Iran and the volatile region.

As other Council members have pointed out, the work of the Panel of Experts and its activities should conform to its mandate. Its reports, analyses and recommendations must be objective, impartial and backed by solid evidence. We reiterate our view that Security Council sanctions should not be pursued as an end in themselves; a negotiated solution to the unresolved

issues needs to be facilitated by striking a balance between sanctions and negotiations. We call upon the Council, the Committee and the Panel of Experts to adjust the objectives and strategy accordingly. Easing of pressure could help with negotiations.

Iran is a party to the NPT and, as a member of the IAEA, is entitled to certain rights that should be respected in line with the provisions of those instruments. At the same time, Iran should fulfil its legal obligations under the NPT. We urge Iran to stay engaged with the IAEA and extend full cooperation to it, with a view to resolving all outstanding issues.

It is important for the Council to broaden the composition of the Panel of Experts, particularly from developing countries. Such a step would enhance awareness and make implementation of the relevant Council resolutions more effective. The Council should revisit the existing method of appointment of the Panel of Experts and align it with the United Nations core values of transparency and impartiality. We hope that the Council will attend to that issue in all its subsidiary bodies. We will gladly contribute to that process.

Mr. Menan (Togo) (*spoke in French*): Allow me to begin by thanking Ambassador Gary Quinlan for presenting the first report on the activities of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), which he chairs with most able stewardship. I would like to reiterate the support of my delegation.

The Iranian nuclear issue in many of its aspects has not significantly changed since our meeting of 13 December 2012 (see S/PV.6888), as noted in the latest report of the Board of Governors, dated 21 February 2013 (see S/2013/103). Pursuant to resolution 2011/69 — in which the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) requested the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Agency to cooperate and step up dialogue so as to urgently resolve all significant pending issues, including access to all information, documents, sites, materials and staff — the two parties met several times. Unfortunately, the report notes that no specific results were obtained. Moreover, the report underscores that the negotiations of December 2012 and of 16 and 17 January 2013, as well as the meeting of 13 February, which sought to finalize the document on the structured approach to the issue, did not lead to an agreement with Iran or to substantive discussions on, *inter alia*, the possible military dimensions of the country's nuclear programme.

In addition to those outstanding issues, it is also noted that activities conducted in declared installations under the Safeguards Agreement run counter to relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors. Generally speaking, the report underscores the fact that Iran has not suspended its fuel enrichment activities in the declared facilities in Natanz and Fordow. Moreover, more advanced centrifuges have been installed at Natanz. The same holds true for heavy water projects, uranium conversion and fuel production. In all cases, while the Agency has concluded that the information obtained basically corresponds to Iran's statements, additional information continues to be expected from the country.

In the light of the foregoing, it is hardly surprising that the International Atomic Energy Agency is increasingly concerned about the possible existence of secret nuclear-related activities involving military sector organizations, in particular activities for the development of a nuclear payload for a missile. There is significant evidence that the crisis of confidence between the international community and Iran continues to grow.

The information contained in the report of the Panel of Experts regarding the launching of Great Prophet 7 missiles during the operations carried out from 2 to 4 July 2012, as well as official Iranian public statements regarding possible military assistance to Hamas and other terrorist groups, only exacerbates the tensions. Those acts, according to the Panel of Experts, run counter to resolutions 1929 (2010) and 1747 (2007) and are a source of great concern.

Talks between the group made up of the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany (P5+1) and Iran, such as the meeting held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 27 February, aimed, *inter alia*, at inducing that country to renounce its nuclear programme and to send its stock of 20 per cent enriched uranium abroad, have not yet led to significant progress on the matter.

Despite that regrettable situation, my country continues to believe in a negotiated solution and calls on Iran once again to uphold its commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors.

In that respect, Togo calls on Iran to step up its cooperation with the IAEA so as to arrive at acceptable solutions to the requests made by the Agency and to continue, in good faith, negotiations with the P5+1. We remain hopeful that at upcoming meetings, in particular at the expert meeting to be held in Istanbul on 17 and 18 March, upstream of the meeting between Iran and the P5+1 slated for 5 and 6 April, progress will be made in that respect.

At the same time, it is crucial for Iran to accept the request of the IAEA as set out in paragraph 65 of its report, by facilitating access to the Parchin site and by addressing the concerns regarding that site.

While recognizing the right of all countries, including Iran, to develop peaceful nuclear energy, we would urge that country to work to implement a peaceful programme and to draw on the cooperation necessary to achieve that goal.

In conclusion, I should like to express my gratitude to the Committee and to the Panel of Experts for their tireless efforts in assisting the Council in the quest for a diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear question. That undertaking requires joint efforts on our part.

It is in that context that Togo is pleased to host, in Lomé from 13 to 17 May, a regional seminar that will allow West African and Central African countries to discuss the measures necessary to abide by the United Nations sanctions regime in that respect and to adopt relevant recommendations.

Mr. Rosenthal (Guatemala) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation wishes to thank Ambassador Gary Quinlan for his informative briefing. We should like to congratulate him and his team on having assumed the chairmanship of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006).

During the reporting period, the Committee continued to undertake the tasks assigned to it with transparency, impartiality and objectivity, without compromising its mandate. We believe that it should continue to do so in future.

We commend the work of the Committee, which has continued to examine national reports, requests and reports of alleged violations by Member States. Regarding the requests made by States for information on the sanctions regime, it is important that the Committee respond in a clear, direct and expeditious manner, pursuant to its mandate.

We welcome the work being done by the Panel of Experts, including its dissemination and awareness-raising activities. We encourage the Panel to continue its work in strict compliance with the relevant resolutions.

The Panel provides invaluable support to the Committee through, *inter alia*, its investigations into alleged violations and incidents. Its conclusions and recommendations, based on verifiable and reliable information, provide a substantive basis for the Committee's decision-making process.

Guatemala has always been in favour of the right of all States to pursue the peaceful use of nuclear energy, pursuant to international treaties, as long as they comply with their verification obligations.

We believe that the Islamic Republic of Iran should fully cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to re-establish trust and to prove the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme. As a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), Iran is obligated to meet its treaty obligations. Likewise, that country, as a member of the IAEA, must cooperate fully with the Agency within the framework of its Safeguards Agreement.

We have taken note of the recent IAEA report on the implementation of the safeguards regime in Iran pursuant to the NPT, in which it is once again indicated that Iran has continued to accelerate its nuclear programme and that pending questions remain unresolved, including those related to the possible military dimension of its nuclear programme. That situation continues to be of great concern to us.

We join the call of the IAEA and urge Iran to adopt measures towards the full implementation of the Safeguards Agreement and other NPT obligations and commitments and, in particular, submit to inspections.

In that context, we note with satisfaction the talks held with the Agency in January and February, and we hope that an agreement will soon be reached on the structured approach.

Guatemala has been consistent in pressing for a political and diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear question. It does not believe that there is an alternative to a negotiated solution. Efforts towards that end must be made on the basis of the principles of consistency and reciprocity and pursuant to the NPT.

We are encouraged by the recent talks between the E3+3 group and the Islamic Republic of Iran held in Almaty, which have been described by some as a turning point in the process. Perhaps it is too early to feel optimistic, but we hope that we can soon envision a negotiated solution to the Iranian nuclear questions. We can only hope, together with the rest of the international community, that the upcoming meetings to be held in Istanbul and again in Almaty will result in real progress and a positive outcome.

In conclusion, my delegation will continue to actively participate in the Committee's deliberations, with the goal of contributing to a lasting solution ensuring the full implementation of the relevant resolutions.

Mrs. Perceval (Argentina) (*spoke in Spanish*): At the outset, we congratulate Ambassador Gary Quinlan on assuming the chairmanship of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and thank him for presenting the quarterly report on the work of that subsidiary organ. We also acknowledge his committed and transparent work.

During the reporting period, the Committee continued to efficiently carry out its work in the context of its mandate. In that regard, we believe that it is important to keep Member States informed of the Committee's work, for example by holding briefings that are open to all States. We also believe that it is appropriate for the Committee to respond to all inquiries received from Member States in order to encourage them to remain vigilant in implementing the relevant resolutions. Furthermore, we believe that the Committee plays a crucial role in providing assistance and cooperation to Member States on implementing the pertinent resolutions. In that regard, we believe that the guidance notes that help States in their implementation efforts are a key tool.

Allow me to underscore three points with regard to the Iranian nuclear programme. First, I would like to reaffirm the inalienable right of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. That is the principled position that we have stated in this and other relevant forums. At the same time, my country has a firm and long-standing commitment to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which I reaffirm in the Council. I believe that the international

community should support the relevance of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and its cornerstone, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Secondly, I would like to mention the most recent report of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of 21 February, which was transmitted to the Council (see S/2013/103). In that regard, we share the assessment of the Director General and his concern about the lack of progress in clarifying the outstanding issues, including those linked to a possible military dimension of the Iranian nuclear programme. We believe that the Islamic Republic of Iran must continue to actively cooperate with the Agency and supply all required information on its nuclear programme, providing access to all necessary sites. In that regard, it is important that Iran adopt the necessary measures to fully implement its safeguards agreement and to meet its other obligations, including the relevant Security Council resolutions, and to regain the international community's trust in the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.

Thirdly, I would like to underscore that we are encouraged by the recent talks between the Government of Iran and the E3+3, held in Almaty. My country believes that we must continue to seek a solution through talks that allow for certainty about the peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear programme. We encourage the parties to continue their efforts in that regard.

We also believe that it is relevant to recall the appeal of the IAEA Board of Governors, in its resolution of September 2012, for Iran to adopt and implement the so-called structured approach to resolve the outstanding issues. Since the adoption of that resolution, there have been three rounds of negotiations between the IAEA and Iran without the Director General having been able to record substantive developments. We hope that the periodic meetings between the two parties lead to specific results with regard to the structured approach so that the process of clarifying the outstanding issues can begin. I have concluded my remarks.

Ms. Lucas (Luxembourg) (*spoke in French*): Like my colleagues, I would like to thank Ambassador Quinlan for presenting the quarterly report on the activities of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). I would like to assure him of my delegation's full support in carrying out his functions as Chair of that sanctions committee, which is at the heart of the non-proliferation regime. We also thank the

Panel of Experts for their invaluable assistance to the Committee's work. Its role is crucial in ensuring that the sanctions measures adopted by the Security Council be fully upheld. My country had the opportunity to host the Panel on 6 and 7 February during a working visit to Luxembourg.

The quarterly report of the 1737 Committee considers the various aspects of its work with regard to restricting Iran's ability to develop its nuclear and ballistic missile capability for military purposes. It is important that the Committee continue on that path and we fully support its efforts along those lines. In that regard, we note with concern the recent report of the Panel of Experts, which unequivocally decides that Iran violated the provisions of paragraph 9 of resolution 1929 (2010) in June 2012 by launching ballistic missiles in the context of a military exercise. We believe that the report must be followed up. The Committee must respond. The same applies to the weapons intercepted on 23 January off the coast of Yemen. In the light of the outcome of the inquiry under way, the Committee should ensure an appropriate follow-up.

The credibility of the appeals to Iran, insisting on its effective cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), also depends of the effective implementation of the sanctions regime. Iran will regain the trust of the international community only by fully cooperating with the IAEA. Iran must therefore clarify the numerous outstanding issues and allow the IAEA inspectors to test the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.

Regrettably, the IAEA's recent report does not enable us to believe in Iran's readiness to uphold its international obligations. In contravention of the resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors, Iran has not suspended its uranium enrichment and processing activities. On the contrary, it has continued to develop its enrichment capacities by using new-generation centrifuges at the Natanz site. Continuing heavy-water projects and refusing the IAEA access to the Parchin site are just as worrying. In such conditions, it is difficult to know the exact nature of Iran's nuclear programme. That in no way helps to create a climate of trust.

While calling on Iran to comply with its international obligations and to fully clarify the nature of its nuclear programme, Luxembourg nevertheless reaffirms its commitment to a negotiated solution based on the

dual-track approach. That is why we are pleased about the talks between Iran and the E3+3 on 26 February in Almaty, facilitated by the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. At that time, a proposal was put on the table that sought to establish trust and to provide true substance to the dialogue. If accepted, that proposal should allow for progress towards a long-term solution on the basis of compliance with the resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors.

We hope that the Iranian Government will positively view the proposal made in Almaty and that the follow-up meetings planned for 18 March at the technical level and for 5 and 6 April at the political level will finally allow for a positive dynamism.

Mr. Mehdiyev (Azerbaijan): I would like to thank Ambassador Gary Quinlan for his work as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and for his presentation of the 90-day report of the Committee.

The Committee received from Member States a number of communications on actions taken in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and on responses on reported incidents during the reporting period. The Committee discussed the incident report by the Panel of Experts dated 11 January 2013, exchanged views on the case reported by a Member State on 6 February 2013 and encouraged the Panel to expedite the investigation in that regard and report to the Committee on its findings. It is critical that the Committee examine all cases and incidents in an impartial and objective manner and consider appropriate actions on the basis of solid evidence. It is essential that the Committee continue its efforts to assist States in implementing the relevant Security Council measures. We note in that regard the adoption by the Committee of an implementation assistance notice on conventional arms and related material and on financial and business measures.

We also note the Panel's visit to several Member States to discuss matters pertaining to the mandate of the Panel, and the participation of its experts in a number of conferences and seminars during the reporting period. It is essential that the Panel continue its outreach activities, which play an important role in increasing the number of national implementation reports from Member States.

The reporting period was also marked by three rounds of talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) aimed at finalizing the structured approach document. However, according to the report of the IAEA Board of Governors of 21 February (see S/2013/103), it has not been possible to reach agreement or begin substantive work on the outstanding issues.

There is no doubt that every country has the right to develop its nuclear industry for peaceful purposes in full accordance with the relevant international obligations. It is therefore important that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran continue its efforts to build international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.

It is encouraging that high-level talks took place at the end of February between Iran and the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany. We hope that the meeting at the technical level to be held later this month, and the resumption of high-level negotiations in April in Almaty, Kazakhstan, will help move the resolution of the problem forward. It is essential to continue dialogue and cooperation on the issues on which progress is urgent for regional stability. We encourage further efforts aimed at resolving the issues of concern peacefully and in a constructive manner.

Mr. Loulichki (Morocco) (spoke in French): Like other colleagues who have preceded me, I would like to reiterate my congratulations to Ambassador Gary Francis Quinlan on his assumption of the chairmanship of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), as well as to thank him sincerely for his first 90-day report. Aware of his thoroughness, integrity and professionalism, we would like to express our full confidence in him and assure him of our cooperation.

I would also like to thank the Panel of Experts established pursuant to paragraph 29 of resolution 1929 (2010). We encourage it to continue, under the aegis of the Committee, to participate in the various conferences and meetings having to do with the Committee's mandate and, above all, to pursue the dialogue undertaken with Member States during the visits that it makes to the countries concerned.

The Committee continues to consider all the cases referred to it. We hope that it will continue to benefit from the cooperation of Member States and the

professionalism and impartiality of the Panel of Experts. We call on the Committee to continue to consider all the assistance notices and to call for their application, given their importance for the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. We would also highlight the need to pursue the consideration of the final report of the Panel of Experts (see S/2012/395), in particular the recommendations it contains.

In the summary of its 16 November report, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) stressed that few concrete results had been achieved in terms of resolving the pending issues with respect to the Iranian nuclear programme, despite the three series of talks held in Tehran since the previous December. We therefore hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the IAEA will quickly reach agreement on a structured approach to undertaking substantive work on the pending issues. As the only institution with the competency to deal with safeguards, the IAEA must have all the cooperation necessary to make concrete progress on the pending issues.

At the same time, we welcome the positive atmosphere in which the most recent talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany, held on 26 and 27 February in Almaty, Kazakhstan. On the basis of our belief that dialogue, diplomacy and peaceful means are the only way to resolve this issue, we hope that the dialogue that has been undertaken, which will continue in March in Istanbul and in April in Almaty, will allow for progress towards a negotiated solution.

I would like to highlight the urgent need to prevent any weakening of the non-proliferation regime and to ensure that all States are in strict compliance with their safeguards obligations. Non-compliance with obligations undertaken through the voluntary and sovereign decision to join the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will only make the achievement of the global goal of nuclear disarmament more difficult and out of reach. My country remains firmly attached to that goal. At the same time, we reaffirm the right of every State to use nuclear energy for exclusively peaceful ends. The non-proliferation regime depends upon a delicate balance between the rights and obligations of States. It is important to protect, preserve and ensure full respect for that balance.

Mr. Nduhugirehe (Rwanda): I congratulate Ambassador Gary Quinlan of Australia on assuming the chairmanship of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). I thank him for his first briefing before the Council on the 90-day report of the Committee and for the commendable work he is doing at the helm of the Committee. I also commend the Panel of Experts created by resolution 1929 (2010) for its valuable support to the work of the Committee.

Rwanda believes that it is the right of every country to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. However, it is clear that the nuclear programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran is of particular concern for the international community. Iran is party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Therefore, it shall fulfil all its obligations under the NPT, fully cooperate with the IAEA and comply with all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. We are particularly concerned about the regional dimension of the crisis. The continued enrichment of uranium, violation of Security Council resolutions, lack of adequate cooperation with the IAEA, slow path of negotiations and legitimate security concerns of countries of the region are all elements that could transform this crisis into an additional conflict that the Middle East does not deserve. In that respect, it is of paramount importance that the Islamic Republic of Iran take all the necessary measures that could convince the international community of the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme. That confidence-building approach is the only way to ensure that the United Nations and the larger international community lift the sanctions that continue to harm the Iranian people.

To conclude, we reiterate our support to the negotiations between the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the purpose of which is to find a diplomatic and political solution to the Iranian nuclear crisis. We commend the constructive talks that the two sides recently held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and we hope that the next talks, scheduled for next month, will reach tangible results.

Mr. Shin Dong Ik (Republic of Korea): I would like to thank Ambassador Gary Quinlan for presenting the 90-day report of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). I also appreciate his leadership of that important Committee.

The Republic of Korea calls upon Iran to immediately comply with all the relevant Security Council resolutions in which the Council decided that Iran shall halt all proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities. My Government remains deeply concerned about Iran's nuclear programme as described in the latest report (see S/2013/103) of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). It is regrettable that progress has not been made in resolving the outstanding issues, including the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear programme. It is disappointing that Iran continues to expand its enrichment capacity by installing more advanced centrifuges in Natanz. Extensive activities and resultant changes at the Parchin site undermine the IAEA's capacity for effective verification. We urge the Iranian Government to engage with the IAEA and provide it with the necessary cooperation without further delay.

In the recent meeting between the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany (P5+1) and Iran, in Almaty, they agreed to further meetings in the future. We look forward to Iran responding constructively to the proposal of the P5+1.

As a State Member of the United Nations, Iran must comply with all the relevant Security Council resolutions. In that context, some incidents described in the 90-day report of the 1737 Committee are indeed troubling. First of all, we have serious concerns about the report from the Government of Yemen regarding the alleged transfer of arms from Iran. Such illicit arms transfers would destabilize Yemen's political transition and undermine regional stability. With the help of the Panel, the Committee must conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation and act on its findings.

Secondly, we also express concern with regard to the Panel's compilation of public statements that admit Iran's military assistance to Gaza. That case requires further investigation by the Committee.

Thirdly, the Panel of Experts clearly concluded in its recent report that Iran's ballistic missile launches during its military exercise in July 2012 constituted a violation of resolution 1929 (2010). The Committee should take appropriate action, including the designation for sanctions of individuals and entities responsible for that violation. The repeated violation of resolutions with impunity will undermine the authority and credibility of the Security Council. The role of the Committee and the Panel of Experts is crucial to

ensuring that sanctions are implemented effectively and efficiently.

Lastly, once again, we urge Iran to address the serious concerns regarding its nuclear programme and to comply immediately and fully with the relevant Security Council and IAEA resolutions. We stress that extraordinary efforts will be required to regain the lost confidence of the international community.

Mr. Briens (France) (*spoke in French*): I, too, would like to thank Ambassador Quinlan for his 90-day report and to take this opportunity to wish him the greatest of success in his task as Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). I would also like to thank the Panel of Experts for its work in support of the Committee.

The Council has taken note of the 21 February report (see S/2013/103) of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). That report once again drew attention to Iran's refusal to meet its international obligations and commitments under the resolutions of the Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors. The report underscores several elements of concern, including the absence of substantive discussions between the IAEA and Iran on unresolved issues and the possible military dimension of the Iranian nuclear programme. Iran, as we know, resorts to making objections on methods so as not to respond substantively. The Agency has still not had access to the Parchin military site.

Another element of concern is the continuation of enrichment activities at Natanz and Fordow, with no credible civilian aim. Twenty-per cent-enriched uranium continues to be accumulated. Enrichment capacity is also being stepped up, in both quantity and quality. That is what we have concluded from the announcement, on 23 January, of the installation of new generation centrifuges at the Natanz enrichment facility. The deployment and use of centrifuges on such an industrial scale represents a significant development in Iranian capacity to produce enriched uranium. It is without a doubt another violation by Iran of its international obligations.

Finally, let us not forget that other nuclear activities are continuing, including those related to the construction of a heavy water reactor, without Iran allowing the IAEA to carry out verification.

The quarterly report of the 1737 Committee also shows that Iran is still not meeting its international obligations, as it continues to pursue its illicit nuclear and ballistic activities as well as its attempts to get around sanctions. France is concerned by the repeated violations by Iran of the arms embargo imposed by the Security Council, which are fuelling the spiral of violence in the Middle East. In particular, we have already expressed our concern regarding the transfer of arms from Iran to Syria. Several such cases were noted by the Experts' report. We welcome, in that regard, the imposition of sanctions on Yas Air and SAD Export Import Company, which were implicated in attempts to deliver weapons to Syria.

We are also concerned by information relating to the transfer of arms and ballistic material to non-State actors in Gaza. The Panel of Experts provided the Committee with a compilation of statements by Iranian officials on that matter. Iran must explain those deliveries, which represent a violation of the arms embargo imposed by resolution 1747 (2007).

Yemen also recently informed the Council of the seizure off its coast of a large quantity of weapons originating in Iran and likely destined for Yemeni insurgents, risking the destabilization of the political transition process in that country.

Developments continued in the Iranian ballistic programme during the reporting period, with contempt for Council resolutions. Iran launched Shaab-1 and Shaab-3 missiles in July 2012 as part of Great Prophet VII military exercises. France, together with Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, notified the Committee of that new violation of resolution 1929 (2010), following which the Panel of Experts carried out an investigation leading to a report concluding unambiguously that the exercise undeniably constituted a violation of resolution 1929 (2010).

In that case, as in the others I mentioned, the 1737 Committee must remind Iran of its obligations. It must, together with the experts, consider the appropriate measures that must be taken, including the imposition of sanctions against the entities and persons responsible.

We remain open to dialogue, as shown by the numerous meetings held between the E3+3 with Iran in 2012. More recently, during the Almaty meeting held on 26 and 27 February, the E3+3 put new, balanced proposals to Iran, which bear witness once again to the will of the six parties to react positively if Iran

undertook the necessary steps to respond to the urgent concerns of the international community. While those discussions allowed for useful first steps to be taken, they did not produce concrete results. The discussions will therefore continue, first between experts in March, then at the political director level in early April to evaluate the situation. We remain, with our partners in the group, fully committed to seeking solutions providing for concrete progress to be made. But nothing will be possible without clear political will on the part of Iran to respond to the concerns of the international community. Unfortunately, Iran has yet to show any such will.

The President (*spoke in Russian*): I thank the representative of France for his statement. I shall now make a statement in my national capacity as representative of the Russian Federation.

We congratulate Gary Quinlan on assuming his role as Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006). We hope that under the Australian leadership the Committee will continue to act in an impartial and objective manner to find a political and diplomatic settlement to the situation regarding Iran's nuclear programme. The Chairman can count on our solid support.

The Committee has worked hard over the past three months to continue efforts in different areas of its activities, including investigations of possible sanctions violations, processing information received and agreeing on different draft documents. We note the work of the Panel of Experts in providing the Committee with valuable assistance. We continue to feel that the Panel must work on an impartial and objective basis guided by the Committee.

With regard to the investigation of possible cases of sanctions violations, an important area of work, we should like to underscore that the conclusion and assessments of the Committee must be based only on verified and reliable information with a careful analysis of the conditions surrounding the incidents. Hasty conclusions have no place in that regard. That pertains equally to the work of the Panel.

Russia has consistently called for a political and diplomatic settlement of the situation with regard to Iran's nuclear programme and sees no alternative to a negotiated settlement. Efforts here must be carried out on the basis of the principles of consistency and reciprocity and in accordance with the Treaty

on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. We remain convinced that the collective activities of the international community in resolving pending matters pertaining to Iran's nuclear programme are undermined by unilateral sanctions, which in a number of cases are extraterritorial in nature. That is categorically unacceptable under international law.

We call for progress in the negotiations process in the six-party talks, as well as in talks between Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). We hope that the forthcoming six-party talks with Iran next week will be effective and allow for both sides to come together in their positions.

On the whole, we understand the indisputable right of Iran to develop a civilian nuclear programme, including enrichment, after resolving all outstanding issues and bringing Iran's nuclear programme come under the reliable and comprehensive oversight of the IAEA. Russia continues to do all that devolves upon it to achieve progress in resolving the situation surrounding Iran's nuclear programme.

I now resume my functions as President of the Council.

I give the floor to Ambassador Quinlan to respond to comments and questions.

Mr. Quinlan (Australia): I will be very brief, knowing how busy the programme is. I would just like to thank Council members for their contributions this morning and for the warm welcome they have given to the Australian chairmanship. At this stage, I would also like to thank my predecessor and acknowledge his contribution, Ambassador Néstor Osorio, who is now President of the Economic and Social Council.

Since this is my first report to the Council, I would like to emphasize that we are very conscious of the responsibilities we have as Chair and the need to work impartially and objectively to secure evidence and to ensure that we are very professional about that. In that regard, I would like to recognize the contribution of the Panel of Experts. They are clearly an indispensable professional platform for our work. I would also like to express my appreciation for the very professional support of the Secretariat.

We need, and we see, an organic working relationship among the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), the Panel and the Secretariat. The Committee is just finalizing a programme of work

for the next little while, which covers its obligations on compliance, investigations, outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation. I think that we have made a good start. I would like to thank Committee members for that. The Committee next meets on 15 March.

Finally, some Council members have raised the issue of the transparency of the Committee's work and, like my predecessor, Ambassador Osorio, I would like to provide forums where the Committee and Panel

members can engage with the broader United Nations membership. We will work with the Committee members to make arrangements for a briefing in the coming months.

The President (*spoke in Russian*): There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.



Security Council

Distr.: General
6 March 2013

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 6931st (closed) meeting of the Security Council

**Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday,
6 March 2013, at 3 p.m.**

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

“On 6 March 2013, the Security Council, pursuant to annex II, sections A and B of resolution 1353 (2001), held its 6931st meeting in private with the troop- and police-contributing countries to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

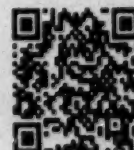
“The Security Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Hervé Ladsous, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

“Members of the Council, Mr. Ladsous and representatives of participating contributing countries had an exchange of views.”

13-25251 (E) 070313



Please recycle



**Security Council**

Sixty-eighth year

Provisional

6932nd meeting

Thursday, 7 March 2013, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Churkin	(Russian Federation)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Oyarzábal
	Australia	Mr. Quinlan
	Azerbaijan	Mr. Mehdiyev
	China	Mr. Li Baodong
	France	Mr. Briens
	Guatemala	Mr. Rosenthal
	Luxembourg	Ms. Lucas
	Morocco	Mr. Loulichki
	Pakistan	Mr. Masood Khan
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kim Sook
	Rwanda	Mr. Nduhungirehe
	Togo	Mr. Menan
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Rice

Agenda

Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-506.

13-25235 (E)



Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The President (*spoke in Russian*): Under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representatives of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Japan, the Netherlands and the Philippines to participate in this meeting.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2013/136, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, Morocco, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, the

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

The President (*spoke in Russian*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2094 (2013).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.15 a.m.